



Mayor Dick Murphy NEWS FOR RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Colleen Rudy

619.236.7060

Arian Collins

619.236.70602

MAYOR, MADAFFER AND INZUNZA ANNOUNCE \$5.35 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING FOR NEW LOGAN HEIGHTS BRANCH LIBRARY

San Diego - Mayor Dick Murphy, Councilmember Jim Madaffer and Deputy Mayor Ralph Inzunza today announced that the state has approved more than \$5.35 million for a new branch library in Logan Heights.

"We are extremely excited about receiving this funding for a new library in Logan Heights," said Mayor Murphy. "The new facility will be a major asset for the community and for the city as a whole. This is another big step in completing Goal #7, to build a 21st century library system for all San Diegans."

The new 25,000-square-foot Logan Heights Branch Library will replace a 3,967-square-foot facility built in 1927. The current library has inadequate infrastructure for computers and no meeting rooms to serve the community's growing population. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2004 and be completed the following year.

"The Logan Heights library project is a partnership between the city and the San Diego Unified School District," said Councilmember Madaffer. "The school district will lease the property to the city for \$1 per year and the library will provide excellent access to local schools, including neighboring Logan Heights Elementary and Memorial Charter Middle School."

The Logan Heights branch is one of 24 city libraries that will be built or improved over the next 10 years as part of a \$312.3 million, system-wide program.

"This new library is essential for the education of tomorrow's youth and today's students," said Deputy Mayor Inzunza. "It gives me great pleasure to know that the community, the City of San Diego and the State of California have recognized the need for a larger more sophisticated library that will serve as both a bastion of education and a vibrant community center."

A total of \$350 million in state funds will be distributed for library projects by the California Public Library Construction and Renovation Board through 2004 under Proposition 14, approved by voters in March 2000. The Logan Heights Library was selected out of more than 60 applications submitted for this round of Proposition 14 funding.

There are two additional future rounds of Proposition 14 funding for which the city can apply. Proposition 14 money is only one of several funding options the city is considering to finance its library system improvement program.

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